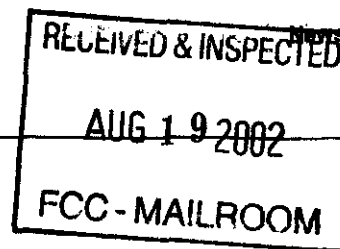




PUBLIC NOTICE

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**THE CONSUMER & GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS BUREAU REMINDS MANUFACTURERS
AND THE PUBLIC OF JULY 1, 2002, DEADLINE FOR PROVIDING DIGITAL TELEVISION
RECEIVERS CAPABLE OF PROVIDING CLOSED CAPTIONING**

**CLOSED CAPTIONING REQUIREMENTS FOR DIGITAL TELEVISION
RECEIVERS
ET Docket No. 99-254**

**CLOSED CAPTIONING AND VIDEO DESCRIPTION OF VIDEO PROGRAMMING,
IMPLEMENTATION OF
SECTION 305 OF THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT OF 1996, VIDEO PROGRAMMING
ACCESSIBILITY
MM Docket No. 95-176 ✓**

In the *Closed Captioning Requirements for Digital Television Receivers Report and Order*, the Commission adopted rules that require manufacturers of digital television (DTV) receivers and DTV set-top converters to include DTV closed captioning display functionality in their DTV devices shipped in interstate commerce or manufactured in the United States on or after July 1, 2002.¹ These rules will ensure that DTV is accessible to persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, in accordance with the mandate of Congress as set forth in Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.²

By this Public Notice, the Commission reminds the public and manufacturers of DTV receivers and set-top converters that the July 1, 2002, deadline has passed, and that manufacturers must now ensure that DTV receivers and set-top converters shipped in interstate commerce or manufactured in the United States include DTV closed captioning functionality.

After adopting rules for the transition to DTV, the Commission adopted technical standards for the display of closed captioning on DTV receivers.³ According to these standards, DTV receivers with the

¹ *Closed Captioning Requirements for Digital Television Receivers; Closed Captioning and Video Description of Video Programming, Implementation of Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Video Programming Accessibility*, ET Docket No. 99-254, MM Docket No. 95-176, *Report and Order*, FCC 00-259, 15 FCC Rcd 16788, 16790 (2000).

² See Pub. L. 104-104, February 8, 1996, 110 Stat 56 (1996).

³ See *Closed Captioning Requirements for Digital Television Receivers, Closed Captioning and Video Description of Video Programming, Implementing of Section 305 of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, Video Programming*